

execution of Fuel Supply Agreement. This earnest money is refundable as per policy.

Nexus of organised crime with anti-national forces

*148. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether union Government have expressed concern over emerging nexus of organized crime with anti-national forces including militant and fundamentalist organisations;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have taken any concrete steps to break such nexus; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Since 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime and terrorism are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. It is for the State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to counter crime and terrorists activities in the States.

The Government of India have adopted a coordinated and multi-pronged approach for tackling the activities of criminals and militants which includes strengthening the border management to check illegal cross border activities of criminals and militants, gearing up the intelligence machinery, close inter-action between different agencies of the Centre and the State Governments, neutralizing plans of militants and anti-national elements by coordinated action, modernization and up gradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc.

Funds are also reimbursed to the States under the Scheme of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure, incurred by the States on combating terrorist/militant/extremist activities.

There is a need to further strengthen the existing legal frame work

which includes the criminal and procedural laws. The State Governments have been advised to enact legislation on the lines of the Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has enacted the Andhra Pradesh Control of Organized Crime Bill, 2001. The State Government of Karnataka has enacted the Control of Organised Crime Bill, 2000 which is awaiting the assent of the President of India.

The National Crime Records Bureau has been advised to set up a national data base on organized crime. The State Governments have also been advised to create databases on organised crime in their respective States. Arrangements for sharing and exchange of information between the Centre and the States are being put up in place. The State Governments have also been advised to set up special units for monitoring, investigating and pursuing organised criminal gangs.

Private Investment in Mines and Minerals Sector

***149. SHRI GAYA SINGH:**

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to encourage private investment in the mines and minerals sector;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal in this regard;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal from private parties for investment in mines and minerals sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The National Mineral Policy of 1993 recognised the need for encouraging private investment including foreign direct investment and State-of-the-Art technology in mineral sector. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 was amended in 1994 and 1999 which resulted in simplification of procedure for grant of mineral concessions, and delegation of power to the State Governments.